
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

In re application of: Patrick et al.

Attorney Docket No.: Lam1P061

Application No.: 08/925,985

Examiner: Markoff, A.

Filed: September 9, 1997

Group: 1743

Title: Apparatus For Improving Etch Uniformity
And Methods Therefor

APR 11 2000

GROUP 1700**PROPOSED AMENDMENT B**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a proposed response to the Office Action dated May 1, 2000. I will call to see whether this proposed response is acceptable.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 3 and the original claims 11-24. Please amend claims 1 and 25, as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) In a plasma processing chamber, a method for improving etch uniformity while etching a semiconductor substrate, comprising:

placing said semiconductor substrate into a sacrificial substrate holder, said sacrificial substrate holder being configured to present a sacrificial etch portion surrounding said semiconductor substrate to a plasma within said plasma processing chamber to permit said plasma to etch a first surface of said semiconductor substrate and a first surface of said sacrificial etch portion simultaneously, said first surface of said sacrificial etch portion being formed of [a material capable of being etched by said plasma] at least 99% pure aluminum and configured to be parallel with said first surface of said semiconductor substrate;

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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

April 11, 2000

Receiver: Alexander Markoff
TEL #: 1 (703) 308-7545
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Sender: Michael Lee

Re: 08/925,985 Proposed amendment

Pages Including Cover Sheet(s): 4

MESSAGE:

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